

In the claims:

1. In a telephone communication system having a packet-data network and a time domain multiplexing network, time-domain-multiplexing telephonic stations of the time domain multiplexing network identified pursuant to a first selected numbering plan and packet-based telephonic stations of the packet data network identified by an other-than-first-selected numbering plan, an improvement of an assembly for facilitating placement of a call originated at an originating telephonic station of the time-domain-multiplexing telephonic station for completion at a terminating telephonic station of the packet-based telephonic stations, said assembly comprising:

a session establishment creator positioned at the packet-based network and coupled to receive indications of originating telephonic station, the origination of the call effectuated through entry at the originating telephonic station of a selected identification sequence defined pursuant to the first selected numbering plan, said session establishment creator for creating a session permitting communication therefrom with the originating telephonic station and for detecting entry by the originating telephonic station of an identifier that identifies the termination station, the identifier used by said session establishment creator to complete the call with the terminating telephonic station.

2. The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a detector positioned at the packet-based network, said detector for detecting the origination of the call by the originating telephonic station and wherein the indications of the origination of the call to which said session establishment creator is coupled to receive are formed by said detector.

3. The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the packet-based network comprises an application server and wherein said detector is embodied at the application server.

4. The apparatus of claim 3 wherein the packet-based network further comprises at least a first media server and wherein said session establishment creator is embodied at the at least the first media server.

5. The apparatus of claim 4 wherein the at least the first media server comprises the first media server and at least a second media server, and wherein said session establishment creator is embodied at a selected one of the first and at least second media servers.

6. The apparatus of claim 5 wherein said detector embodied at the application server is further for selecting at which of the first and at least second media servers that the session establishment creator is to be embodied.

7. The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the communication system comprises a media gateway positioned to interconnect the packet-based telephonic network and the time domain multiplexing network and wherein the call originated at the originating telephonic station is routed to said detector by way of the media gateway.

8. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the communication system comprises a media gateway positioned to interconnect the packet-based telephonic network and the time domain

multiplexing network and wherein indications of the call originated at the originating telephonic station are provided by the media gateway to said session establishment creator.

9. The apparatus of claim 8 wherein the media gateway is identified by an identifier conforming to the first selected numbering plan and wherein the indications of the origination of the call are provided to said session establishment creator subsequent to delivery of the call origination at the media gateway.

10. The apparatus of claim 9 wherein the packet-based telephonic network comprises an IP network that utilizes IP protocol nomenclature and wherein the identifier entered by the originating telephonic station subsequent to creation of the session between said session establishment creator and the originating telephonic station comprises an IP address associated with the terminating telephonic station.

11. The apparatus of claim 9 further comprising an index database in which an IP address associated with the terminating telephonic station is indexed together with a mnemonic associated therewith and wherein the identifier entered by the originating telephonic station comprises a representation of the mnemonic.

12. The apparatus of claim 11 wherein said session establishment creator causes the index database to be searched to locate the IP address associated with the mnemonic of which the representation thereof is received by said session establishment creator during the session formed with the originating telephonic station.

13. The apparatus of claim 12 wherein said session establishment creator further comprises a voice-to-text converter, wherein the entry by the originating telephonic station of the identifier comprises a voice entry and wherein said session establishment creator searches the index database subsequent to conversion of the voice entry into text form.

14. The apparatus of claim 11 wherein a user identity is associated with the terminating telephonic station and wherein the mnemonic is imitative of the user identity.

15. In a method for communicating in a telephonic communication system having a packet-data network and a time domain multiplexing network, time-domain-multiplexing telephonic stations of the time domain multiplexing network identified pursuant to a first selected numbering plan and packet-based telephonic stations of the packet data network identified by an other-than-first-selected numbering plan, an improvement of a method for facilitating placement of a call originated at an originating telephonic station of the time-domain-multiplexing telephonic station for completion at a terminating telephonic station of the packet-based telephonic stations, said method comprising:

originating the call at the originating telephonic station through entry thereof of a selected identification sequence defined pursuant to the first selected numbering plan;

detecting at a session establishment creator element positioned at the packet-based network, indications representative of the selected identification sequence;

creating a session between the session establishment creator element and the originating telephonic station;

sending an identifier from the originating telephonic station to the session establishment creator, the identifier identifying the terminating station; and

completing the call to the terminating station.

16. The method of claim 15 wherein the identification sequence defined pursuant to the first selected numbering plan during said operation of originating comprises a number formatted pursuant to a North American Numbering Plan.

17. The method of claim 15 wherein the communication system further comprises a media gateway interconnecting the packet-based network and the time domain multiplexing network, said method further comprising the operation of routing the call originated during said operation through the media gateway.

18. The method of claim 15 wherein the identifier sent during said operation of sending is representative of an IP address identifying the terminating telephonic station.

19. The method of claim 18 further comprising the operation of maintaining a database accessible by the session establishment creator, the database including the IP address indexed together with a mnemonic associated with the terminating telephonic station.

20. The method of claim 19 wherein the identifier sent during said operation of sending comprises the mnemonic associated with the terminating telephonic station.